

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A method for producing a lacquer composition, the method comprising the step of adding silica particles to a reaction mixture comprising~~mixing together a first organosilane compound, and a metal alkoxide and silica particles~~ under basic conditions ~~to form a reaction mixture~~.
2. (currently amended) A method according ~~according~~ to claim 1, wherein the metal alkoxide is a zirconium alkoxide, an aluminum alkoxide, a titanium alkoxide or a mixture thereof.
3. (previously amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the metal alkoxide is a metal diketonate.
4. (previously amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the first organosilane compound is an epoxysilane.
5. (previously amended) A method according to claim 4, wherein the epoxysilane is 3-glycidyloxypropyltrimethoxysilane.
6. (previously amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein at least a second organosilane compound is added to the reaction mixture.
7. (previously amended) A method according to claim 6, wherein the second organosilane compound comprises a tetra-alkoxysilane.

8. (previously amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, comprising the further steps of coating a substrate with the reaction mixture, and curing the reaction mixture to form a lacquer coating on the substrate.

9. (previously amended) A Product provided with a lacquer coating, wherein the lacquer coating is obtained by the method as claimed in claim 8.

10. (previously amended) A starting material composition for obtaining a lacquer composition, the starting material composition comprising an organosilane compound, silica particles, a base, and a metal alkoxide.

11. (previously amended) A lacquer composition comprising the reaction product of the starting material composition of claim 10.

12. (cancelled)

13. (cancelled)

14. (cancelled)

15. (cancelled)

16. (cancelled)

17. (cancelled)

18. (cancelled)

19. (cancelled)

20. (cancelled)

21. (cancelled)

22. (cancelled)

23. (cancelled)

24. (cancelled)